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REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY West Germany

TOPIC General Military Information

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EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 2 to 18 February 1953 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 9 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The situation of Erfurt inhabitants who had to vacate their apartments without prior notice on orders of the Soviet Army to the Erfurt municipal administration was the subject of a party meeting of the SED held on 6 February 1953 in Erfurt. Allegedly 200 apartments in Erfurt-Sued had to be vacated for Soviet officers.

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2. [redacted] not able to obtain information on the occupation of the Altes Lager in Ohrdruf because of the fence and the numerous sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The roads to the training area were blocked. The camps on the road to Crawinkel were vacant. About 20 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets were stringing telephone lines between Ohrdruf and Woelfis. Three trucks [redacted] were seen with these soldiers. Truck [redacted] was seen enroute from Ohrdruf to Woelfis. Three flatcars carrying three tanks were at the Ohrdruf railroad station.

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3. On 18 February, three JS tanks, [redacted] 1 jeep, and 4 trucks, [redacted] were entrained at the Plauen railroad station, coming from the Hindenburg Kaserne. An informant stated that, at 3 a.m. on 2 February, 6 to 12 tanks had been detrained and had left toward the barracks installations. During the morning hours, several tanks left the Hindenburg Kaserne toward the highway or the autobahn.

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1. [redacted] Comment. According to information by [redacted] newspapers, numerous apartments had to be vacated by the civilian population in Erfurt, as early as in the fall of 1952. It is not known, whether these apartments were occupied after they had been vacated.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The division headquarters and several units of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div are carried as previously in the Altes Lager in Ohrdruf. The information on the training area and the camps north of Crawinkel does not give any indication for the advanced combat practice firing of units of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps which, according to reports on transportation, began on about 10 January and were still under way on 10 February 1953. The units involved probably are quartered in tent camps in the immediate vicinity of the training areas, [redacted] because the training area was restricted.

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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